(d) In view of the need to exercise economy on expenditure, all Heads of Missions and Posts who attended the orientation programme on March 30-April 10, 1992 were instructed to adjust the expenditure on this account within their Mission/Post's sanctioned budget grant. The details of the expenditure incurred are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Our Heads of Missions and Posts are being kept regularly briefed of changes and developments in our economic policies. However, it was felt that these needed to be supplemented by direct interaction between our Heads of Missions and Posts who are required to interpret and promote these policies to foreign audiences and those who are formulating and implementing these policies in the country.

Reaction of Government of India to Developments in Afghanistan

*94. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the impact of recent happenings in Afghanistan on India's interests; and

(b) what is India's attitude in respect of these events and developments in that country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No basic or long term impact on Indo-Afghan relations is envisaged. Our traditionally close relations with neighbouring Afghanistan transcend governmental changes that might take place in either country.

(b) While the events occasioned concern at the possibility of further violence and bloodshed and growth of ethnic tensions in Afghanistan, recent developments also raise the prospect of peace and restoration of normalcy in that country. Government wish the new Afghan authorities, whom we have acknowledged as the interim Government of Afghanistan, success in their tasks ahead and look forward to a continuous and fruitful dialogue with them for further strengthening of our bilateral relations.

Defaulting in Repayment of Loan by N.T.C.

*95. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1775 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th March, 1992 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the N.T.C. has been a defaulter in regard to the repayment of loans and interests to the Government to the tune of more than Rs. 1,100 crores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether repayment is now being made or further defaulting is going on;

(c) what is the budgetary support proposed to N.T.C. during the coming year and what was the same during the last three years;

(d) whether the number of perennially loss making N.T.C. units has gone up; and

(e) if so, what is the number and its percentage to the total number of units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) NTC had to default in repayment of principal portion of the loan given to them.

(b) NTC Mills are continuously making losses on account of obsolete machinery, low productivity etc. and as such, there is no internal generation of resources for repayment of loans.

(c) For the year 1992-93, the budgetary support to NTC is of the order of Rs. 107.30 crores. The details of budgetary

support to NTC during the last three years is as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Budgetary support
1989-90	325.94
1990-91	138.36
1991-92	112.83

(d) and (e) There are 124 mills under NTC and 120 mills are in production. Out of these, 14 mills have been identified which are incurring continuous heavy losses. The percentage of these mills to the total number of mills works out to 11.9%.

*96. [*Transferred to the 8th May*, 1992.]

आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि के दौरान वस्त्र निर्यात क्षमता में वृद्धि किये जाने की योजनाएं

*97. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**

श्री रणजीत सिंह : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वस्त्र उद्योग ने अन्य उद्योगों की तुलना में अधिक विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि कपास के उत्पादन के मामले में भारत का विश्व में चौथा स्थान है ;

(ग) वस्त्र उद्योग द्वारा 1990-91 और 1991-92 के दौरान वर्षवार कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की गयी ;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि वस्त्र उद्योग की निर्यात क्षमता को बढ़ाया जा सकता है ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना-अवधि के दौरान इस सम्बन्ध में क्या योजनाएं हैं ?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अशोक गहलोत) : (क) और (ख) जी हां ।

(ग) वर्ष 1990-91 और 1991-92 के दौरान वस्त्रों के निर्यात क्रमशः 9932 करोड़ रु० और 14379 करोड़ रु० (अनन्तिम) मूल्य के हुए ।

(घ) और (ङ) वस्त्र निर्यात को और बढ़ाने की गुंजाइश है । वस्त्र निर्यात को और बढ़ाने की दृष्टि से वस्त्र उद्योग के सभी क्षेत्रों में आधुनिकीकरण की प्रक्रिया में तेजी लाने के लिये 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान प्रयास किये जायेंगे ।

Kashmir Issue on the British Election Agenda

*98. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press reports that the Kashmir issue has been on the British Election agenda;

(b) if so, what is the British Government's stand on the material support being rendered by Pakistan to Kashmiri militants;

(c) what is Government's information about the stand taken by the Labour Party and other political parties in this regard ; and

(d) what is the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The British Government have been repeatedly advising Pakistan that it should cease its support and encouragement to terrorist-related violence in Kashmir.

(c) The Labour Party's election manifesto states the following on Kashmir : "The Labour government will make itself available to our friends in India and Pakistan